

1 WHEREAS, ex parte orders issued on the basis of allegations made by one parent
2 against another parent have significant and immediate effects on parent-child relationships
3 and may remain in place for extended periods pending further proceedings, thereby denying
4 a child the love and affection of a parent without the normal evidentiary process that every
5 other court requires; and

6 WHEREAS, the financial costs associated with custody litigation, including attorney
7 fees, expert evaluations, and related court expenses, may impose substantial burdens on
8 families and may limit access to justice; and

9 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of this state to ensure that family court
10 proceedings are conducted in a manner that is fair, transparent, evidence based, and
11 consistent with constitutional protections and the best interests of children; and

12 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of these issues is necessary to evaluate whether
13 statutory or procedural reforms are warranted to improve fairness, consistency, due process,
14 and child well-being outcomes in family courts.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and provide for the Task Force on Child
17 Well-Being, Parental Bonds, and Family Court Fairness to study the administration of justice
18 in family courts, including disparities in custody outcomes.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its study, the task force shall consider all of
20 the following:

21 (1) Concerns regarding due process protections for parents.

22 (2) The adequacy of evidentiary standards used in custody and visitation
23 determinations, including ex parte orders issued without notice and the impact of such orders
24 on child well-being and parent-child bonds.

25 (3) The impact of rising costs of custody litigation and related proceedings on
26 families.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the following
28 members:

29 (1) The state representative who represents House District No. 88.

1 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the
2 House of Representatives.

3 (3) One member who is a justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court appointed by the
4 Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

5 (4) One member who is a practicing attorney specializing in family law appointed
6 by the Louisiana State Bar Association.

7 (5) Four members who have experienced litigation in family court appointed by the
8 chairman of the task force.

9 (6) One member appointed by the Louisiana Family Forum.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state representative who represents House
11 District No. 88 shall serve as chairman of the task force.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the
13 names of designees to the task force to the chairman no later than August 15, 2026.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the task force shall convene for its first meeting no
15 later than September 15, 2026, at the call of the chairman, and the members may elect other
16 officers to assist the chairman as the task force may deem appropriate.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study, the task force shall seek
18 input, advice, information, and data from any persons, agencies, entities, or stakeholders it
19 deems necessary to fulfill the purposes of this Resolution.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force constitutes a quorum
21 for the transaction of business. All official actions of the task force require the affirmative
22 vote of a majority of the members.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve
24 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be
25 individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that meetings of the task force are subject to the
27 Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:11 et seq., and records of the task force are subject to the
28 Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of
2 its findings and recommendations, together with specific proposals for legislation, to the
3 House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 15, 2027.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one print copy and one electronic copy of any
5 report produced pursuant to this Resolution shall be submitted to the David R. Poynter
6 Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on the date it
8 submits its report or February 15, 2027, whichever occurs first.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
10 Louisiana Supreme Court, the Louisiana State Bar Association, and the Louisiana Family
11 Forum.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 360 Original

2026 Regular Session

Edmonston

Creates the Task Force on Child Well-Being, Parental Bonds, and Family Court Fairness to study the administration of justice in family courts, the adequacy of evidentiary standards used in custody and visitation determinations, and the impact of rising costs of custody litigation and related proceedings on families.

Requires the task force to submit a report of its findings and recommendations for legislation to the La. House of Representatives by Feb. 15, 2027.